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Message Text

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46
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-05 EUR-12 PC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /086 W
---------- 097280
R 240945Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9605
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 4420

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT TZ
SUBJ: NYERERE NOMINATED TO RUN FOR PRESIDENCY

1. TO SURPRISE OF NOBODY, JOINT CONFERENCE OF MAINLAND TANZANIA'S TANU PARTY AND ZANZIBAR'S AFRO-SHIRAZI PARY (ASP) ON SEPT. 22 UNANIMOUSLY NOMINATED JULIUS NYERERE TO RUN FOR A FOURTH FIVE YEAR TERM AS PRESIDENT OF TANZANIA IN OCT. 26 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. UNDER TANZANIA'S "ONE-PARTY DEMOCRACY" SYSTEM, ELECTORATE WILL VOTE "YE" OR "NO" TO THE PARTY'S NOMINEE. IN 1970 ELECTIONS, VOTE ON NYERERE WAS 96.7 PERCENT "YES" AND 3.3 PERCENT "NO". NO STARTLING CHANGE IS EXPECTED THIS YEAR.

2. IN ACCEPTANCE SPEECH NYERERE SPOKE OF BURDENS OF PRESIDENCY INCLUDING RESPONSIBILITY OF DECIDING QUESTIONS OF LIFE AND DEATH (CLEMENCY, WAR) AND OF DEPRIVING PEOPLE OF LIBERTY "WITHOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW" (UNDER PREVENTIVE DETENTION ACT). HE SAID HE HAD OFTEN CONSIDERED RETIRING AS PRESIDENT WHILE STILL IN HIS PRIME, AS AN EXAMPLE TO THE NATION, BUT HAS DECIDED AT AGE 53 THAT HE STILL FIT TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY. TANZANIAN PRESIDENTS SHOULD NOT BE AUTOMATICALLY REELECTED, HE SAID, EVEN THOUGH CONSTITUTION PERMITS IT, JUST BECAUSE OF THEIR SERVICES IN THE PAST, AND IN SOME COUNTRIES LEADERS
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HAVE BEEN KEPT ON TOO LONG TO THE DETRIMENT OF THEIR NATIONS.

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3. FINALLY, AND AS PERSONAL, "UNCLEARED" VIEW, HE STRONGLY
RECOMMENDED THE IMMEDIATE AMALGAMATION OF THE TANU AND ASP
PARTIES, NOTING THAT THEIR CONTINUANCE AS SEPARATE ENTIES
WAS A CONSITUTIONAL ANOMALY IN A "ONE PARTY" NATION, AND THAT
THERE EXIST OTHER NATIONS WITH "MORE THAN ONE GOVERNMENT"
BUT ONLY "ONE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY AND ONE REVOLUTIONARY POLICY."
(NOTE: REFERENCE HERE IS UNCLEAR. PERHAPS NYERERE IS THINKING
OF GUINEA-BISSAU AND CAPE VERDE, OR OF TWO VIETANAMS, OR PERHAPS
OF SOVIET OR YOUGOSLAV FEDERAL SYSTEMS.) DESPITE EMOTIONAL TIES
PEOPLE HAVE WITH THE NOW OUTDATED SYMBOLS OF TANU AND ASP,
HE SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT "IF WE WISH...OUR TWO PARTIES
CAN UNITE AND GIVE BIRTH TO ONE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY, WHICH
WILL LEAD ONE REVOLUTIONARY COUNTRY." ASP HEAD, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
JUMBE, SUBSEQUENTLY ENDORSED NYERERE'S SUGGESTION.

4. COMMENT: WHILE FORMAL UNIFICATION OF TANU AND ASP
PARTIES IS QUITE POSSIBLE, THE REAL DIFFERENCES BEYWEEN ZANZIBAR
AND MAINLAND TANZANIA, WHERE IDEOLOGICAL, ETHNIC, ECONOMIC,
OR HISTORICAL, WOULD NOT BE ENDED BY A PARTY MERGER.
CARTER

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